

June 2010

The Windline

Susquehanna Valley Chapter - ATOS

[web site: www.svtos.org](http://www.svtos.org)

A 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the preservation and presentation of Theatre Organs. Proudly supporting the Mighty Wurlitzer Pipe Organ at the Capitol Theatre in York, PA

Michael Xavier Lundy Showcase



Monday
June 14, 2010
Capitol Theatre

7:00 PM

**This showcase is open
to SVTOS Members
and Guests only!**

Michael Xavier Lundy at 25-years-old is an accomplished organist, pianist, and choral conductor. Equally adept at performing on the piano, the organ, and with a baton; he is known for his enthusiastic and robust up-tempo style of playing the king of instruments, along with his ability to conduct choirs and orchestras in major works by the masters.

Mr. Lundy began his musical training at the age of ten with piano lessons. When Mr. Lundy reached his senior year of high school he continued his classical training on the organ with Dr. Neil Harmon, organist of Grace United Methodist Church in Wilmington, Delaware. Mr. Lundy is primarily self-taught in the realm of theatre organ but he credits the late Paul Richardson; celebrated stadium organist for the Philadelphia Phillies Baseball team for having coached him in the art of performing popular music on the organ.

Mr. Lundy has been serving in the ministry of church music for over a decade as an organist and choirmaster for various churches of various denominations. As a choral conductor Mr. Lundy conducted a premier performance of the John Leavitt "Requiem" in New York City in the spring of 2006

Mr. Lundy's career as a theatre organist provided him the opportunity to serve in such appointments as: House Organist of the John Dickinson High School Auditorium in Wilmington, Delaware, House Organist of the Saint George Theatre in Staten Island, New York; Staff Organist for both the Keswick Theatre in Glenside, Pennsylvania and the Broadway Theatre in Pitman, New Jersey. Mr. Lundy is proud to be a member of the American Guild of Organist, the American Choral Directors Association and the American Theatre Organ Society.

From a 'Dusty Corner'

In case you missed our last meeting, let me recap it for you. We held our Annual Meeting, Don Kinnier did an informative workshop on how to accompany singers and other musicians, he also hosted the "Arranger's Challenge" and there was even time for Open Console.



During the Annual Meeting we heard reports from the Treasurer, the Chair of the Membership Committee and from some of our other activities. Members agreed to two proposals regarding dues: One to set the dues for ATOS members at \$30 and another to charge dues per household rather than per member.

The following slate of officers were elected for the 2010-2011 year: I'll continue as President, Ken Kline as Vice President and Program Chair. Roy Wainwright will continue as Secretary and Emmitte Miller as Treasurer.

The Annual Meeting also gave me a chance to recognize and say "Thank You" to four members for their distinguished service to the club: Don Schoeps, Larry Fenner, Gary Coller and Don Kinnier.

The Arranger's Challenge was a first for me. Don Kinnier had given out "lead sheets" (melody line with chords) for a simple piece called "Melody in F." Each organist was encourage to create his or her own arrangement. It was fascinating to hear how eight different organists handled the same music. I'm still haunted by the tune.

If you want to hear the Mighty Wurlitzer at it's best, come out June 14 for our Showcase featuring Michael Xavier Lundy. He'll knock your socks off. We're also working on plans to visit a home installation and our annual picnic.

Have a great summer, Dusty

Congratulations!:

The following members have been elected for the 2010-2011 season:

President: Dusty Miller

Vice President and Program Chair: Ken Kline

Secretary and Newsletter Editor: Roy Wainwright

Treasurer: Emmitte Miller

Scholarship Fund

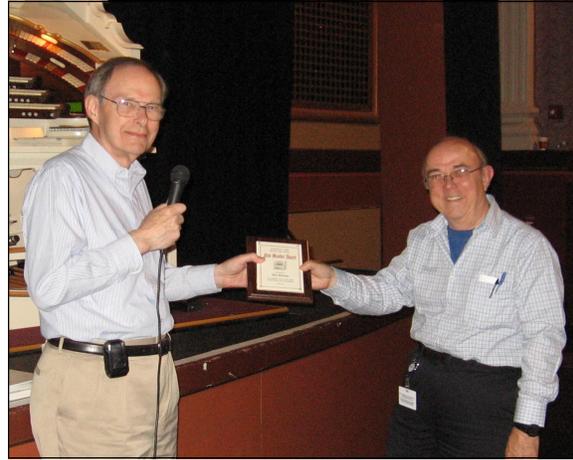
A Scholarship Fund has been set up to provide money for talented young organists to attend the ATOS Youth Summer Camp. To make your tax-deductible contribution to this fund, make your check payable to SVTOS, note "Scholarship Fund" in the memo line and send it (or give it) to our Treasurer, Emmitte Miller, 4017 Woodspring Lane, York, PA 17402-7527. If you would like more information about this scholarship fund and/or possible candidates, please call Dusty, 717-795-2775, or email Pres@SVTOS.org.

These contributions are now tax-deductible!

President's Awards



Larry Fenner for his skills and dogged perseverance of the 501(c)(3) approval.



Don Schoeps for exemplary service in his first year in the chapter.



Don Kinnier for his many years of volunteering as artist, workshop leader, mentor and hospitality host.



Gary Collier for many years of distinguished service to the chapter and projects.

Rosa Rio, Organist From Silent Films to Soap Operas, Dies at 107

Miss Rio was undoubtedly among the very last to have played the silent-picture houses, accompanying the likes of Chaplin, Keaton and Pickford on the Mighty Wurlitzer amid velvet draperies, gilded rococo walls and vaulted ceilings awash in stars. She was also one of the few women to have made her way in a field dominated by men.

Miss Rio died on Thursday, less than three weeks before her 108th birthday. For the silents, Miss Rio provided music — often improvised — to set moods that images alone could not: the footsteps of a cat burglar, the sighs of young lovers and the dreadful roar of the oncoming train as the heroine flailed on the tracks. When silents gave way to talkies, she became a ubiquitous presence on the radio; when radio yielded to television, she played for daytime serials. The Queen of the Soaps, the newspapers called her.

In Miss Rio's career one can trace the entire history of entertainment technology in the 20th century. After all, she was alive, and playing, for nearly all of it.

Midcentury Americans could scarcely touch a dial without hearing Miss Rio. As the staff organist of the [NBC](#) radio network from the late 1930s to 1960, and an occasional organist for ABC Radio, she provided live music for a spate of popular shows, including "The Shadow," starring a trim [Orson Welles](#), and "The Bob and Ray Show." Her television credits include "As the World Turns" and the "Today" show.

In recent years, long after television dispensed with live organists, Miss Rio accompanied silent films at some of the nation's tenderly restored movie houses. She was most closely associated with [the Tampa Theater](#) in Florida, a lavish picture palace built in 1926.

Several times a year Miss Rio would rise from beneath the stage there, seated at the organ in sequined evening gown, diamond rings and gold lamé slippers. As she wafted majestically upward, the room shook with [her signature tune](#), "Everything's Coming Up Roses," or, as she much preferred to call it, "Everything's Coming Up Rosa." Borne on a wave of cinematic nostalgia, Miss Rio had come blissfully full circle.

Miss Rio was born on June 2, 1902. She began calling herself Rosa Rio — a name narrow enough to fit neatly on a theater marquee — early in her career. At 8, Elizabeth began piano lessons and immediately decided on a show business career. This, her parents made clear, was no fit occupation for a proper Southern girl. She persevered, and her parents relented a little. Playing in church would be fine, they decided. So would the genteel life of a children's piano teacher. With these callings in mind, Elizabeth entered the Oberlin College Conservatory in Ohio.

She chafed there until the day she visited a Cleveland movie palace and heard a theater organ for the first time. Not long afterward, she transferred to the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, which had a program in silent-film accompanying.

In the 1920s, Miss Rio played in movie houses around the country before being hired by the Fox Theater in Brooklyn. Then came the "talkies", and she found supplementary work as an accompanist and vocal coach. One of her clients was an unknown singer named [Mary Martin](#), whom Miss Rio accompanied on her successful audition for the [Cole Porter](#) musical "Leave It to Me!" (1938), [Martin's Broadway debut](#).

At NBC, Miss Rio played for as many as two dozen radio shows a week, often with just 60 seconds between shows to bolt from one studio to another. On Sept. 1, 1939, the day Germany invaded Poland, she was summoned to work at 2 a.m. For the next 10 hours, she performed somber music between news bulletins. After the United States entered the war, she had her own show, "Rosa Rio Rhythms," broadcast to American troops overseas.



1930's Möller Pipe Organ OPUS 6778

16 Ranks
plus Chimes, Harp.

Price: \$18,000

Theatre organ percussions:
Glockenspiel, xylophone, toy counter,
percussions (crash cymbal, tap cymbal)
are NOT included in this price.
They are for sale separately.

I have rebuilt the entire organ with the exception of one wind chest which is still in good working condition. The organ is ethereal in nature, but also played theatre style music successfully. Included in the organ is a fully functional ARTISAN computer relay system, 2 small/compact "WHITE Blower Company" blowers, wind line, shades and frames. Basically, everything is there that is needed to re-erect the instrument. The only thing missing is the console – the original 2 manual console was sold several years ago and I purchased a 3 manual Moller Theatre console to replace it. I'm still using that to this day in my home. I'm playing all digital voices currently and if I had the space this organ would not be for sale as I have put 14 years into building it. I am available to assist in finding a suitable console to use – not hard to do these days – there are a lot of them out there. I am also available to assist in putting the instrument back together – however, this would be fee based. I have moved and rebuilt the instrument 3 times and given the fact that I placed connectors on the chests – reassembly is quite easy. Feel free to contact me with any questions or if you would like to see it. It is currently stored in my home – air conditioned.

Thank you,
Steve Eppley 954-270-3104

Rosa Rio, continued

Radio of the period was a rough-and-tumble world — a man's world. Miss Rio gave as good as she got.

As recounted in [Leonard Maltin's book "The Great American Broadcast: A Celebration of Radio's Golden Age"](#) (Dutton, 1997), she was playing a show at NBC one day when the announcer, Dorian St. George, crept up behind her, undid the buttons down the back of her blouse and unhooked her bra. Miss Rio, performing live before a gallery of visitors, could do nothing but play on.

When the music stopped, Mr. St. George stepped up to the microphone to do a commercial. As he intoned plummily with the gallery looking on, Miss Rio stole up behind him, unbuckled his belt, unzipped his fly and neatly dropped his trousers. Then, according to Mr. Maltin's book, she started on his undershorts.

What happened next is unrecorded!

(article from New York times - abridged by RCW)

RIVIERA THEATRE & ORGAN PRESERVATION SOCIETY
2010
MONTHLY ORGAN CONCERT PROGRAM
JUNE
presenting
KEN DOUBLE *at the Mighty Wurlitzer*
with **SKIP STINE** *on Trumpet*



Wednesday, June 9 at 7:30pm

doors open at 6:30pm

Tickets (non-members): \$ 10.00 (under 18s FREE)

RIVIERA THEATRE & PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

67 WEBSTER STREET, NORTH TONAWANDA, NY 14120 • (716) 692-2413

WE NEED YOUR IDEAS!

We'll be lining up our programs for the 2010-2011 season soon.

If you have any suggestions for a showcase or information topic, please pass it along to Ken Kline:

Ken's Phone 717-564-7513
or Dusty DustyandBarbara@Verizon.net.

Free State Theatre Organ Schedule

Sunday, June 13, 3:00 p.m.
Don Kinnier and Judy Townsend
Sunday, Sept 12, 3:00 p.m.
John Terwilliger
Sunday, Nov 7, 3:00 p.m.
Frank Vanaman
Sunday, Dec 5, 3:00 p.m.
Christmas Program

Summer 2010 Tannenberg organ recitals

York County Heritage Trust Museum
250 East Market St.
York, PA 17403
All recitals start at 12:15PM

July 9, Todd Davis, Director of Music, Christ Lutheran Church, York
July 16, Victor Fields, Dean, York Chapter AGO, Organist, First United Methodist Church, Hanover
July 23, Riyeehee Hong, Director of Music and the Arts, Philadelphia Cathedral
July 30, Richard Frey, Organist and Choir Director, Trinity United Church of Christ, Hanover
August 6, Roy Wainwright, Organist, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Abbottstown
August 13, Rodney Barnett, Organist & Choir Director, Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, York
August 20, Cameron Wentz, student, Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ
August 27, Christine Kates, Adjunct Professor, York College of PA

Mark your calendars now dept:

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2010 – 7:30 pm

WHAT: "Classic Silent Film"

Douglas Fairbanks, Sr.
The Mark of ZORRO

Musical accompaniment by CHRIS ELLIOT
Playing the 4/23 Wonder Morton Theatre Pipe Organ

The 1920 classic swashbuckling silent film starring Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., as Zorro. It is full of plot twists as Zorro evades pursuit while fighting all oppressors. It has an appealing blend of romance, athleticism, comedy and swordplay. Slashing his well-known trademark Z. Zorro leads the way to "Justice for All".

WHERE: LOEW'S JERSEY THEATRE, 54 Journal Square, Jersey City, NJ

TICKETS: \$10 at the door. Door opens at 7:00 PM

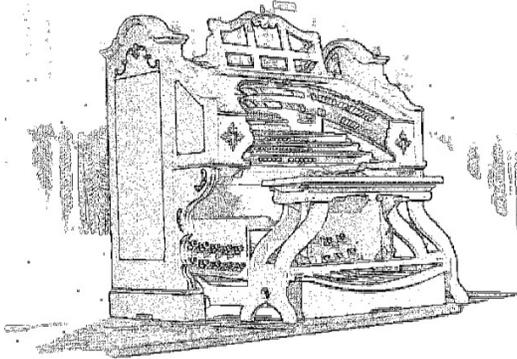
SPONSORED BY: Garden State Theatre Organ Society

WEB SITE: www.gstos.org www.loewsjersey.org

INFORMATION: Carole Rustako 732-741-4045, ajr-cjr@att.net

The Windline

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email: Newsletter@svtos.org



Important Upcoming Event!

>Monday June 14, 2010
Michael Xavier Lundy
Capitol Theatre 7:00 to 9:00